

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

Phone: 605-737-6721 Email: ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil

Web: <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil>

www.facebook.com/SouthDakotaNationalGuard

www.flickr.com/SouthDakotaNationalGuard

https://twitter.com/SD_Guard



July 3, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

155th Engineer Company receives Superior Unit Award

By Sgt. Michael Dodge
155th Engineer Company

RAPID CITY, S.D. –The South Dakota Army National Guard's 155th Engineer Company received one of the highest accolades a unit can achieve when they were presented the Superior Unit Award, June 15, in Rapid City. The Superior Unit Award is presented to units who meet highly-enforced military standards in the areas of personnel, training and readiness.

"The 155 earned the Superior Unit Award because the Soldiers and leadership of the unit made it a priority to be prepared to respond to any mission at any time," said Capt. David Dodson, commander.

In order to achieve the award, units must maintain assigned personnel strength of 95 percent, complete inactive duty and annual training, and ensure that 95 percent of their Soldiers are fully qualified in their duty military occupation specialty.

"Meeting the criteria for the Superior Unit Award is not something that is accomplished during a single month or even a couple of drills," said Dodson. "This accomplishment is made by the Soldiers who do more than attend drill every month, but who take pride year-round in being a member of the 155."

In addition to meeting training goals, weapon qualification rates, Army Physical Fitness Test results and unit inspections factor into award requirements.

"For the company to achieve this award, the Soldiers made the effort to meet the individual performance standards as well as the collective company criteria," said Dodson. "The effort made by individual Soldiers to maintain their readiness was outstanding. Earning the Superior Unit Award is a celebration of the efforts made by the Soldiers of the 155 throughout the year."

Dodson believes the award acknowledges the dedication of individuals whose efforts may go unrecognized but are critical to unit readiness.

"Extra effort, such as qualifying as expert at the range or improving a personal best during the APFT, is not always recognized but this award says these Soldiers are among the best," said Dodson.

The Rapid City-based 155th is a vertical engineer company capable of providing engineer support in the construction of base camps and internment facilities, constructing, repairing and maintaining other vertical infrastructures in support of units within a brigade combat team, division or corps.

High resolution photos are available at www.flickr.com/southdakotationalguard



140615-Z-JC840-002: U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Kevin Griesse (left), South Dakota Army National Guard's assistant adjutant general, presents the Superior Unit Award to Capt. David Dodson, company commander of the 155th Engineer Company in Rapid City, S.D., June 15, 2013. The Superior Unit Award is presented to units who meet highly-enforced military standards in the areas of personnel, training and readiness. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Michael Dodge/Released)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact Maj. Anthony Deiss at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil